

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05749 141007Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ORM-02 /015 W
-----141353Z 067865 /53
R 140845Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4529
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5749

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, GE
SUBJECT: TEMPORARY VISIT TO GDR OF FORMER REFUGEE

REF: STATE 081006

1. ON OCTOBER 26, 1972, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC PASSED A LAW STATING THAT PERSONS HAVING LEFT THE GDR PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1972, WOULD BE DEPRIVED OF GDR CITIZENSHIP BUT WOULD NOT BE PROSECUTED CRIMINALLY FOR SUCH ILLEGAL DEPARTURE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE GDR PROCLAIMED AN AMNESTY STATING THAT PERSONS WHO HAD EARLIER BEEN PROSECUTED AND CONVICTED FOR SUCH ILLEGAL DEPARTURES WOULD BE PARDONED OR AMNESTIED. THE EFFECT OF THE LAW AND AMNESTY IS TO PERMIT PERSONS BORN IN THE GDR, PRESENTLY TRAVELING ON NON-GDR DOCUMENTATION, WHO DEPARTED FROM THE GDR AND EAST BERLIN PRIOR TO THAT CUTOFF DATE, TO RETURN TO VISIT RELATIVES WITHOUT BEING SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION FOR ILLEGAL DEPARTURE.

2. SINCE THE OPENING OF THE EMBASSY IN 1974, A NUMBER OF AMERICAN CITIZENS OF GERMAN DESCENT, WHO DEPARTED THE GDR UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES SIMILAR TO THOSE OUTLINED IN REFTEL HAVE RETURNED FOR VISITS. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, NONE HAVE EXPERIENCED ANY DIFFICULTY EITHER ENTERING OR DEPARTING THE GDR.

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3. A GDR TOURIST VISA INDICATES THAT ENTRY IS PERMITTED FOR A GIVEN NUMBER OF TIMES, DURING A GIVEN PERIOD. NO MENTION OF EXIT VISA IS MADE. TOURISTS VISITING THE GDR ARE REQUIRED, HOWEVER, TO REGISTER WITH THE LOCAL POLICE WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER ENTRY. NO EXIT VISA IS REQUIRED AND A TOURIST IS FREE TO DEPART AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF HIS VISA. POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW, REFUGEES, AMNESTY, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN05749
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770129-0974
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770459/aaaabyb.tel
Line Count: 62
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 81006
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2811557
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEMPORARY VISIT TO GDR OF FORMER REFUGEE
TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, GC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1734b2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009